

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
AT TACOMA

WILL CO. LTD. a limited liability
company organized under the laws of
Japan,

Plaintiff,

v.

KA YEUNG LEE, an individual;
YOUHAHA MARKETING AND
PROMOTION LIMITED, a foreign
company; and DOES 1-20 d/b/a
THISAV.COM,

Defendant.

CASE NO. C20-5802 BHS

ORDER

This matter is before the Court on counsel for Defendants Ka Yeung Lee and YouHaHa Marketing and Promotion Limited's unopposed motion to withdraw, Dkt. 51, and Plaintiff Will Co. Ltd.'s unopposed motion for leave to file a second amended complaint, Dkt. 48.

An artificial entity—such as a limited company—cannot represent itself in court pro se and may appear in federal court only through licensed counsel. *Rowland v. California Men's Colony*, 506 U.S. 194 (1993); 28 U.S.C. § 1654; Local Rules, W.D.

1 Wash., LCR 83.2(b)(4). Counsel representing a business entity and seeking to withdraw
2 must certify to the Court that they have advised the business entity of this legal
3 requirement:

4 A business entity, except a sole proprietorship, must be represented
5 by counsel. If the attorney for a business entity, except a sole
6 proprietorship, is seeking to withdraw, the attorney shall certify to the court
7 that he or she has advised the business entity that it is required by law to be
8 represented by an attorney admitted to practice before this court and that
9 failure to obtain a replacement attorney by the date the withdrawal is
10 effective may result in the dismissal of the business entity's claims for
11 failure to prosecute and/or entry of default against the business entity as to
12 any claims of other parties.

9 LCR 83.2(b)(4).

10 In seeking to withdraw, counsel for Defendant YouHaHa certify "that they have
11 advised defendants that their withdrawal may result in an entry of default against them."
12 Dkt. 51, ¶ 6. However, defense counsel do not certify that they have advised YouHaHa
13 that it is required by law to be represented by an attorney admitted to practice before this
14 Court. *See* LCR 83.2(b)(4). The motion to withdraw, Dkt. 51, is accordingly **DENIED**
15 with leave to refile in accordance with this District's local rules.

16 Will Co.'s unopposed motion for leave to file a second amended complaint, Dkt.
17 48, is **GRANTED**. Will Co. shall promptly file its second amended complaint.

18 **IT IS SO ORDERED.**

19 Dated this 28th day of May, 2024.

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BENJAMIN H. SETTLE
United States District Judge